

# **ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH COMMUNITY OF FAITH**

*A spiritual hub for  
creativity, discovery and growth*



***Sunday, July 3, 2022. 10:00 AM***  
***Fourth Sunday after Pentecost***

Worship Leader  
*Wanda McNea*

Music Director  
*Brad Mills*

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Supervising Minister: Rev Shelley Roberts  
Voluntary Associate Minister: Rev Arlyce Schiebout

Welcome and Life of the Community: We are part of community worship today on YouTube and in the sanctuary of St Paul's United Church in Perth, Ontario. St Paul's offers worship in various formats: by emailed bulletin, YouTube at [www.stpaulsperth.ca](http://www.stpaulsperth.ca), Zoom on occasion, in print at the outer office door, and mail upon request. Please read "*What's Happening*" for additional announcements and news.

Covid Protocols for In-Person Worship Masking and distancing indoors continue to be advised by Public Health and requested at St. Paul's. Please wear a mask if you are singing. If you are experiencing any Covid symptoms or have been in contact with someone who has Covid, please join us on YouTube for the Sunday service.

This Sunday we thank Wanda Mcnea, Chair of Worship and Arts Team and members of the congregation for preparing and leading worship.

Last Sunday: There was a positive case of COVID identified in our church community. The individual was likely contagious during the Baptism event on June 26, 2022. Since COVID protocols were observed, the risk is low, but we still encourage everyone to remain vigilant and get tested if symptomatic. Please continue to pray for the healing and recovery of the affected individual. The Sanctuary has been fogged. This incident serves as a reminder of the importance of self-monitoring before attending each service out of care for our church family.

Hearing Assist Devices: are available for in person worship, please speak to an usher for assistance.

UPCOMING WORSHIP (Services are offered in-person and on YouTube)

July 3 – Congregation led service  
July 10 – LLWL Andrew Nicholls  
July 17- LLWL Allison Adamovits  
July 24 & 31 – LLWL Jeannie Page

The Worship and Arts team thanks all of those who have responded to the Worship Survey. We will provide a summary of the views expressed to the congregation and use this evaluation as a resource for the team in planning services in the future.

We all rejoice that the Minister Search Team and the congregation have discerned the call of a new minister and we anticipate settling into a consistent worship leader in the second half of the year.

Summer Office Hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30am to 3:00pm

*Acknowledgement of Land and Affirm United/s'affirmer ensemble*

*The land on which we live, and worship is the land of the Algonquin Anishinaabe Native People. We give thanks for their generations of stewardship of land and for elders who continue to guide us. As we mourn the loss of Indigenous lives, we seek to support reconciliation and hope with our actions.*



*St Paul's is a member of Affirm United/S'Affirmer Ensemble, and continues education to live out the learnings of the blessing of God's creation of the diversity of humanity.*

## We Gather

### Acknowledgments and Affirmation

### Welcome and Life of the Community

Piano Prelude: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

- Afro-American Spiritual, setting by Ann Buys

### Lighting of the Christ Candle

Today we intentionally light the Christ candle within our own spirit and among us, seeing in its light grace, promise and hope for today and tomorrow. Thanks be to God.

### Call to Worship

We know wherever we are, here in the Sanctuary or online, God is with us.

**Knowing that our human values sometimes overshadow God's values,**

We come into this place to reconnect with the source of life,  
so that we put God's blessings where they belong.

**We come to be reminded of what's really important,**

So that Christ's life may guide our values and actions.

**We come knowing that in our need, we are blessed.**

Let us worship God together.

**Amen.**

\*Hymn: "We Have This Ministry" VU 510

- 1 We have this ministry  
and we are not discouraged;  
it is by God's own power  
that we may live and serve.  
Openly we share God's word,  
speaking truth as we believe,  
praying that the shadowed world  
may healing light receive.  
We have this ministry, O God, receive our living.
- 2 O Christ, the tree of life,  
our end and our beginning,  
we grow to fullest flower

when rooted in your love.  
Brothers, sisters, clergy, lay,  
called to service by your grace,  
different cultures, different gifts,  
the young and old a place.  
We have this ministry, O God, receive our giving.

3 The yoke of Christ is ours,  
the whole world is our parish;  
we daily take the cross,  
the burden and the joy.  
Bearing hurts of those we serve,  
wounded, bruised and bowed with pain,  
Holy Spirit, bread and wine,  
we die and rise again.  
We have this ministry, O God, receive our loving.

#### Prayer of Confession

God of Love, we confess that we often forget that your love is boundless and that, as followers of Christ, we miss opportunities to share your love as you intended.

**God of the Universe, we confess that we often place self-interest above the needs of others.**

Gracious One, we confess we sometimes resent the grace that has been received by others.

**Forgive us when we give up or act too quickly and miss the opportunity to be embraced by your grace.**

God of the downtrodden, we confess that our egos sometimes get in the way of humbly following the disciples' path. We make plans based on our own values and proceed without taking time to reflect on your plan for us and all people.

**God of forgiveness, we bring before you our failures and limitations.**

*(a time of silent reflection)*

**We come willingly, ready to learn and be forgiven.**

#### Assurance of Pardon

We are disciples on an unfolding journey, from the past through the present to a changing tomorrow. We are a forgiven people. God promises love and grace always.

**Thanks be to God. Amen**

Children and Youth Time: Water and God's Grace

## **We Encounter Sacred Story**

Scripture: 2 Kings 5:1-14  
Galatians 6:7-16

\*Hymn: "When I Need a Neighbour" VU 600

- 1     When I needed a neighbour, were you there,  
          were you there?  
      When I needed a neighbour, were you there?  
      And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,  
          were you there?
  
- 2     I was hungry and thirsty, were you there,  
          were you there?  
      I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?  
      And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,  
          were you there?
  
- 3     I was cold, I was naked, were you there,  
          were you there?  
      I was cold, I was naked, were you there?  
      And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,  
          were you there?
  
- 4     When I needed a healer, were you there,  
          were you there?  
      When I needed a healer, were you there?  
      And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,  
          were you there?
  
- 5     Wherever you travel I'll be there,  
          I'll be there,  
      wherever you travel I'll be there.  
      And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter.

Reflection: Seeking Humility

Musical Reflection

## Our Response to Listening and Hearing

### Offering Invitation:

\*Offering Sung Response: “Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands” VU 537

- 1 Your work, O God, needs many hands  
to help you everywhere,  
and some there are who cannot serve  
unless our gifts we share.
  
- 2 Because we love you and your work,  
our offering now we make:  
be pleased to use it as your own,  
we ask for Jesus' sake.

### \*Prayer of Dedication

As you have blessed our lives so abundantly,

**These are our gifts so that your wisdom may be heard & heeded.**

**These are our pledges to meet needs and call for justice.**

**These are our commitments to care for our faith community.**

Bless our offerings, Gracious God and bring forth from them knowledge,  
comfort and care. Amen.

Anthem: “O Rest in the Lord – Mendelssohn Soloist: Vera Campbell

### Prayers of the People

Creator God, we come to you in prayer,  
in desperate need of your reconciling love.

We pray for the many different peoples of this world,  
divided as we are into many nations, clans, cultures, and spiritual traditions.

Too often we react to differences as misguided or wrong.

Help us understand those differences more fully,  
and honour the good things that bind us together despite differences.

Bless both our diversity and our unity as those who belong to you.

God of all the earth,

**Teach us to live in understanding.**

Loving God, source of truth and wisdom,  
in the world we are confronted by power and authority.

We see opposing sides, each claiming they are acting justly.

Help us recognize their potential for both good and evil,  
and faithfully discern whom to trust and when to act.  
When we see injustice or recognize falsehood,  
give us the courage to speak up in Christ's name.  
Open our eyes to our own weakness and bias,  
and speak to us through the example of Jesus, our Lord.  
God of all the earth,  
**Teach us to live in peace.**

Compassionate God,  
the world is filled with anger and violence.  
We sometimes feel powerless to do anything about it.  
Today our hearts ache for those whose lives are at risk  
and for those who suffer the many effects of trauma.  
We pray for those who have fled their homes to survive.  
Open our hearts to protect those who stay amid conflict as there is no option.  
We silently name them.  
God of all the earth,  
**Teach us to live in compassion.**

All-knowing God,  
you see into our hearts and know the heartaches we carry.  
We pray for those living with illness and pain,  
for those who mourn a loss, and for all those struggling with addiction, anxiety or  
despair in these challenging times.  
We silently bring their names to you.  
God of all the earth,  
**Teach us to live in love.**

Help us to hear and trust your guidance as we pray the words Jesus taught us:

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

**Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For this is the Kingdom and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

\*Affirmation of Peace

## **We Go Forth to Be the Church in the World**

\*Hymn: "What Does the Lord Require of You?" VU 701 x3

- 1 What does the Lord require of you?  
What does the Lord require of you?
- 2 Justice, kindness,  
walk humbly with your God.
- 3 To seek justice, and love kindness,  
and walk humbly with your God.

### \*Commissioning & Benediction

Go on your way as laborers sowing the good news in a world of need.

Go on your way as companions of one another, of the Spirit, and of Christ.

Go on your way with the assurance that the God of peace goes before you, with you and behind you. Go in peace. Amen.

Postlude: "Tambourin" - Gossec, arr. by Lane

*Portions of this service adapted from Gathering, Pentecost 1 2022.*

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